



DIABETES IN McCORMICK COUNTY

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

◆ Diabetes Control Program ◆ Chronic Disease Epidemiology Branch
Diabetes Initiative of South Carolina

Diabetes mellitus, a chronic disease characterized by elevated blood sugar levels, is a significant contributor to morbidity and mortality in South Carolina and throughout the United States. Diabetes can cause debilitating and costly complications such as blindness, renal failure, lower extremity amputations, and cardiovascular disease. Much of the health and economic burden of diabetes can be averted through known prevention measures.

In 1998, 5.7 percent of South Carolina adults, equivalent to approximately 163,000 adults, reported having been diagnosed with diabetes. Diabetes was the sixth leading cause of death in South Carolina claiming 1,029 lives in 1997 and contributing to another 3,014 deaths. This report presents the burden of diabetes in McCormick county.

Behavioral Risk Factors

Table 1 displays the prevalence of major behavioral risk factors for diabetes and its complications in McCormick county and SC in 1998.

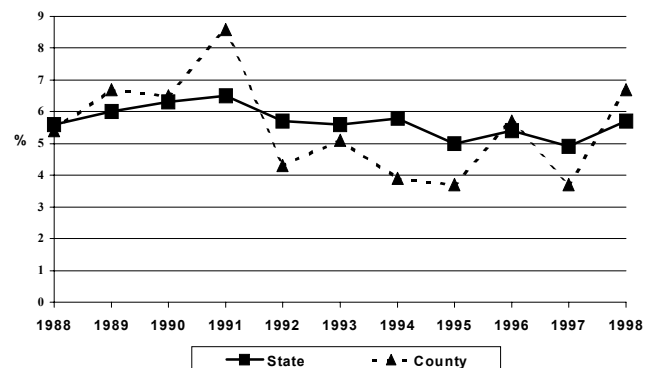
Table 1. Prevalence (%) of
Behavioral Risk Factors for Diabetes

	McCormick County	SC
Overweight	63.3	52.3
Current Smokers	23.4	24.7
Physical Inactivity	65.1	61.6
Consuming fruits and vegetables less than 5-A-Day	78.7	78.2
Hypertension (1997)	23.1	26.7
High Cholesterol (1997)	29.4	24.4

Prevalence

In 1998 there were approximately 504 adults (6.7%) aged 18 and older living in McCormick county who have been told by a doctor some time in their life that they have diabetes (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Prevalence of Self-Reported
Diabetes among Adults, McCormick, 1988-1998



Morbidity and Complications

In 1997, there were 20 hospital discharges with diabetes as the primary diagnosis among McCormick county residents. During the same year, there was an additional 130 hospital discharges with diabetes-related condition. African-Americans had more hospitalizations than whites: 16 (80%) for diabetes as the primary diagnosis, and 81 (62%) hospitalizations for diabetes as a related condition.

In 1997, hospital charges for hospitalizations of McCormick county residents having diabetes as primary diagnosis were up to \$162,108 and \$1.9 million for diabetes as a related condition. The total

length of hospital stay for diabetes as the primary diagnosis was 109 days.

McCormick county patients with diabetes who had diabetes-related complications in 1997 included:

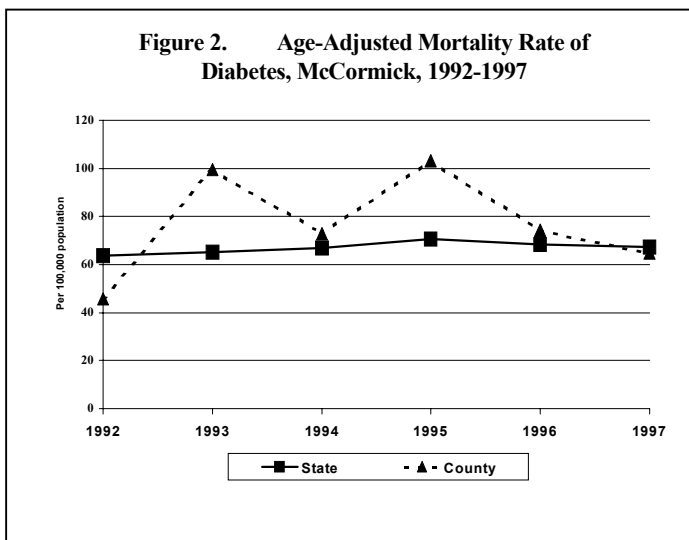
- 14 (9.3%) with renal manifestations;
- 4 (2.6%) with lower extremity amputations related to diabetes;
- 10 (6.7%) with diabetic ketoacidosis;
- 11 (7.3%) with renal failure;
- 8 (5.3%) with dialysis.

Adults with diabetes are at increased risk of developing cardiovascular disease. Out of 149 hospitalizations for patients with diabetes, 99 (66%) had cardiovascular diseases, and 10 (6.7%) had stroke.

In 1997, there were 8 emergency room (ER) visits for diabetes as the primary diagnosis, all for African-American patients. In addition, there were 24 ER visits for diabetes as a related condition. Total ER charges for diabetes as the primary diagnosis was \$4,094.

Mortality

In 1997, diabetes was listed as the underlying cause of death for 6 residents of McCormick county. This is an age-standardized mortality rate of 45.1 per 100,000 population, higher than the state average of 39.2 per 100,000 population (Figure 2). Diabetes was listed as a contributing cause in 8 deaths in McCormick county; a standardized mortality rate of 64 per 100,000 population.



A total of 36 potential years of life were lost in 1997 because people died prematurely from diabetes. African-American women had the highest standardized mortality (124.9 per 100,000 population) among all race-sex groups.

McCormick County Resources

Paula Haynes, RN, BSN
Program Coordinator
DHEC Home Health Upper Savannah
1736 South Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 942-3631

Elizabeth Stokes, RN, BSN
Program Coordinator
DHEC Home Health Appalachia I
220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
(864) 260-5617

Debbie Lotz, RN, BSN
Program Coordinator
DHEC Home Health Lower Savannah
222 Beaufort Street
Aiken, SC 29801
(803) 642-1656

